GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4996
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
SILK EXPORT
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Silk Export Promotion Council (SEPC) has predicted that Silk Export will rise by 15% over the next 5 years;

(b) whether the SEPC has made any recommendations to meet this increased demand for silk from foreign countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have initiated steps to implement the suggestions of the SEPC to meet the projected high demand for Indian silk;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC) is entrusted with the responsibility for export promotion activities in respect of Silk goods for the country, and has the autonomy to implement its own suggestions in this regard, subject to guidelines and the policies of Govt. of India. However, the Government is taking several steps to increase the exports of silk products -

(i) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like TexStyles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine `Silk India` and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.

(ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the EXIM Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.

(iii) Government has set up a Core Group for developing silk exports to advise and monitor on the planning and execution of an export promotion strategy involving market research studies, product development and diversification, encouragement to R&D, participation in fairs and exhibitions, brand promotion for non-mulberry silks, expansion of production of Indian raw silk etc.

(iv) For Technological up-gradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.

(v) Govt. have initiated a production programme of high quality of bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk to international standards and its productivity & cost competitiveness. Programmes are being implemented to improve technologies at all stages of the process of silk development, and diversify products with inputs for improvement of looms and designs such that they may expand the export share of the country.

(vi) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.